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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Serial No.: ..... 09/417,990  
Filing Date: ..... October 13, 1999  
Inventors: ..... Lovett et al.  
Applicant: ..... Microsoft Corporation  
Group Art Unit: ..... 2178  
Examiner: ..... Queler, A.  
Confirmation No.: ..... 8254  
Attorney's Docket No.: ..... MS1-383US  
Title: **Methods and Systems for Processing XML Documents**

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED OCTOBER 20, 2003**

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

To: MS: AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**

DEC 23 2003

Technology Center 2100

From: David S. Lee  
Lee & Hayes, PLLC

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action of October 20, 2003, with regard to the above-identified application, the following remarks are submitted. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.